



General Assembly

January Session, 2013

***Raised Bill No. 6400***

LCO No. 3197



Referred to Committee on CHILDREN

Introduced by:  
(KID)

***AN ACT CONCERNING MANDATED REPORTERS AND REQUIRING  
CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORDS CHECKS FOR YOUTH CAMP  
DIRECTORS AND ALTERNATE DIRECTORS.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subsection (b) of section 17a-101 of the general statutes is  
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*  
3 *October 1, 2013*):

4 (b) The following persons shall be mandated reporters: Any  
5 physician or surgeon licensed under the provisions of chapter 370, any  
6 resident physician or intern in any hospital in this state, whether or not  
7 so licensed, any registered nurse, licensed practical nurse, medical  
8 examiner, dentist, dental hygienist, psychologist, a school employee, as  
9 defined in section 53a-65, any coach or director of intramural or  
10 interscholastic athletics at a school who is eighteen years of age or  
11 older, any coach or director of youth athletics who is eighteen years of  
12 age or older, any coach or director of a private sports organization or  
13 team who is eighteen years of age or older, any administrator, faculty,  
14 staff, athletic director, athletic coach or athletic trainer employed by a

15 constituent unit of the state system of higher education or private  
16 institution of higher education who is eighteen years of age or older,  
17 social worker, police officer, juvenile or adult probation officer,  
18 juvenile or adult parole officer, member of the clergy, pharmacist,  
19 physical therapist, optometrist, chiropractor, podiatrist, mental health  
20 professional or physician assistant, any person who is a licensed or  
21 certified emergency medical services provider, any person who is a  
22 licensed or certified alcohol and drug counselor, any person who is a  
23 licensed marital and family therapist, any person who is a sexual  
24 assault counselor or a battered women's counselor as defined in  
25 section 52-146k, any person who is a licensed professional counselor,  
26 any person who is a licensed foster parent, any person paid to care for  
27 a child in any public or private facility, child day care center, group  
28 day care home or family day care home licensed by the state, any  
29 employee of the Department of Children and Families, any employee  
30 of the Department of Public Health who is responsible for the licensing  
31 of child day care centers, group day care homes, family day care  
32 homes or youth camps, any youth camp director or assistant director,  
33 the Child Advocate and any employee of the Office of the Child  
34 Advocate and any family relations counselor, family relations  
35 counselor trainee or family services supervisor employed by the  
36 Judicial Department.

37       Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2013*) (a) Except as provided in  
38 subsection (b) of this section, the Commissioner of Public Health,  
39 within available appropriations, shall require each youth camp  
40 licensed pursuant to chapter 368r of the general statutes to conduct  
41 state and national criminal history records checks on any director or  
42 assistant director of a youth camp licensed pursuant to chapter 368r of  
43 the general statutes who is (1) a paid employee, or (2) a volunteer  
44 providing on-going services at the youth camp, prior to the director or  
45 assistant director performing any duties at the youth camp. If the  
46 director or assistant director is performing duties at the youth camp on  
47 the effective date of this section, the youth camp shall conduct a

48 criminal records checks on the director or assistant director prior to the  
49 issuance or renewal of the youth camp's license pursuant to chapter  
50 368r of the general statutes. The criminal history records checks  
51 required under this subsection shall be conducted in accordance with  
52 section 29-17a of the general statutes. The commissioner shall also  
53 request a check of the state child abuse registry established pursuant to  
54 section 17a-101k of the general statutes.

55 (b) The criminal history records checks required under subsection  
56 (a) of this section shall not be required for any director or assistant  
57 director who (1) has successfully completed a state and national  
58 criminal history records check for immigration purposes in accordance  
59 with federal law not more than six months prior to the date such  
60 director or assistant director (A) begins employment at the camp, or  
61 (B) begins volunteering at the camp, or (2) has previously submitted to  
62 state and national criminal history records checks pursuant to  
63 subsection (a) of this section.

64 Sec. 3. Section 19a-422 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
65 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2013*):

66 To be eligible for the issuance or renewal of a youth camp license  
67 pursuant to this chapter, the camp shall satisfy the following  
68 requirements: (1) The location of the camp shall be such as to provide  
69 adequate surface drainage and afford facilities for obtaining a good  
70 water supply; (2) each dwelling unit, building and structure shall be  
71 maintained in good condition, suitable for the use to which it is put,  
72 and shall present no health or fire hazard as so certified by the  
73 department and the State Fire Marshal or local fire marshal, as  
74 indicated by a current fire marshal certificate dated within the past  
75 year and available on site when the youth camp is in operation; (3)  
76 there shall be an adequate and competent staff, which includes the  
77 camp director or assistant director, one of whom shall be on site at all  
78 times the camp is in operation, activities specialists, counselors and  
79 maintenance personnel, of good character and reputation; (4) prior to

80 assuming responsibility for campers, staff shall be trained, at a  
 81 minimum, on the camp's policies and procedures pertaining to  
 82 behavioral management and supervision, emergency health and safety  
 83 procedures and recognizing, preventing and reporting child abuse and  
 84 neglect; (5) prior to engaging any director or assistant director as a  
 85 paid employee or volunteer providing on-going services, state and  
 86 national criminal history records checks shall be conducted on such  
 87 individual in accordance with section 2 of this act; (6) all hazardous  
 88 activities, including, but not limited to, archery, aquatics, horseback  
 89 riding and firearms instruction, shall be supervised by a qualified  
 90 activities specialist who has adequate experience and training in such  
 91 specialist's area of specialty; ~~[(6)]~~ (7) the staff of a resident and  
 92 nonresident camp shall at all times include an adult trained in the  
 93 administration of first aid as required by the commissioner; ~~[(7)]~~ and  
 94 (8) records of personal data for each camper shall be kept in any  
 95 reasonable form the camp director may choose, and shall include (A)  
 96 the camper's name, age and address, (B) the name, address and  
 97 telephone number of the parents or guardian, (C) the dates of  
 98 admission and discharge, and (D) such other information as the  
 99 commissioner shall require. Any youth camp licensed under this  
 100 chapter shall operate only as the type of camp authorized by such  
 101 license. Such camps shall not advertise any service they are not  
 102 equipped or licensed to offer. The license shall be posted in a  
 103 conspicuous place at camp headquarters and failure to so post the  
 104 license shall result in the presumption that the camp is being operated  
 105 in violation of this chapter.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
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Section 1	<i>October 1, 2013</i>	17a-101(b)
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2013</i>	New section
Sec. 3	<i>October 1, 2013</i>	19a-422

***Statement of Purpose:***

To expand the category of persons who are mandated reporters and to require criminal history records checks for directors and assistant directors of youth camps.

*[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]*